

MOTION BY SUPERVISOR MARK RIDLEY-THOMAS

September 24, 2019

Reestablish the Reward Offer in the Murder of William Fifita

On March 20, 2016, at approximately 2:15 a.m., 21-year-old William Fifita was shot and killed at the intersection of Crenshaw Boulevard and Rosecrans Avenue in the city of Hawthorne after leaving a church dance with two college friends and a cousin. Mr. Fifita, who was driving the group, was stopped in the intersection when four or five suspects pulled up next to him in a white Kia Soul and began shooting into the car. The suspects then drove away, and were last seen heading southbound on the 405 freeway from Crenshaw Boulevard. Mr. Fifita and two of the three other occupants in the car were struck by the gunfire; tragically, Mr. Fifita passed away at the scene from his injuries.

William Fifita was a college student at Mt. San Antonio College, played football and was very involved in his church. He is survived by his father, William Fifita, who is a San Bernardino County Sheriff's Deputy, and his mother, Melissa Fifita. His family is devastated by this senseless tragedy.

On May 30, 2017, the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors approved a reward offer in the amount of \$10,000 in exchange for information leading to the apprehension and/or conviction of the person(s) responsible for the death of Mr. Fifita. The Board extended the reward offer on August 22, 2017; the reward offer expired on February 23, 2018. Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department detectives investigating

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MOTION

SOLIS _____

RIDLEY-THOMAS _____

KUEHL _____

BARGER _____

HAHN _____

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this case recommend that this reward be reestablished to help solve the crime and encourage members of the community to come forward with information that would assist detectives in identifying the suspect(s) responsible for this heinous crime.

I THEREFORE MOVE THAT THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS:

Reestablish the offer of a reward in the amount of \$10,000 in exchange for information leading to the apprehension and/or conviction of the persons responsible for the death of 21-year-old William Fifita, who was shot and killed on March 20, 2016 at approximately 2:15 a.m. at the intersection of Crenshaw Boulevard and Rosecrans Avenue in the city of Hawthorne after leaving a church dance with family and friends.

Contact: Detective Karen Shonka
Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department
Homicide Bureau
(323) 890-5621

- or -

Crime Stoppers
(800) 222-8477

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(MN/SM)